



At or better than target.  
Continue to monitor.



Within 5% of target. Monitor  
and take action as appropriate.



Below target by more than 5%.  
Take action and monitor progress.



No target identified  
or available.

## WHAT IS BEING MEASURED?

A wait time is the amount of time, in days, a patient has to wait for a procedure. For surgeries, it is the time from when the patient and surgeon decide to proceed with surgery to the actual surgical procedure date. For diagnostic scans [Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and Computed Tomography (CT)], the wait time is the time from when a scan is ordered until the scan is completed.

Clinical experts have recommended timeframes within which surgeries or diagnostic scans should be completed to ensure the best results for patients. The timeframes vary by the type of surgery and by the priority level of the case. Priority Level I cases should be done immediately whereas Priority Level IV cases can wait up to 84-182 days for surgeries or up to 28 days for CTs and MRIs.

This measure tracks the percentage of surgical and diagnostic scan cases completed within the recommended priority access target wait times.

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Completing surgeries or diagnostic scans within the timeframes recommended by clinical experts ensures the best results for our patients.

## WHAT IS THE TARGET?

Bluewater Health aims to have 90% of its surgical and diagnostic service scans completed within the priority access target wait times 90% of the time or more.

## HOW ARE WE DOING?

11 out of 13 services are within the priority access target wait times of 90% of the time or better for the most recent reporting period. Cataract surgeries are slightly below target at 81% and CT is slightly below target at 89%.

## WHAT ACTIONS ARE WE TAKING?

To improve wait times, Bluewater Health will continue to:

- Invest in technology and longer hours of operation for CT;
- Maintain efficient scheduling practices for MRI; and
- Use best practices to improve patient flow and efficiency in Operating Rooms.

Surgical Service/ Diagnostic Scan	Oct-Dec'14	Jan-Mar'15	Apr-Jun'15	Jul-Sep'15	Oct-Dec'15
<b>Target</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>90%</b>
General Surgery	98%	99%	99%	98%	100%
Ophthalmic Surgery (incl. Cataracts)	100%	100%	85%	73%	81%
Orthopaedic Surgery (incl. Hips/Knees)	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%
Cancer Surgery (all Cancers)	98%	95%	98%	92%	98%
Gynaecology Surgery	100%	99%	98%	99%	98%
Oral/Dental Surgery	92%	97%	96%	97%	100%
Ear/Nose/Throat Surgery	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Urologic Surgery	100%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Vascular Surgery	100%	100%	98%	100%	100%
Paediatric Surgery	93%	96%	99%	91%	98%
Plastic Surgery	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	100%
MRI	41%	38%	82%	92%	95%
CT	92%	93%	91%	89%	89%

## WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS MEASURE?

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) website provides significant detail about how long the wait times are for specific health care procedures.

This information is available at:

- MOHLTC [see website](#)
- [Contact us](#)

**FREQUENCY REPORTED:** Quarterly

**NEXT UPDATE:** May 2016